

30 JANUARY 2015

Pass it on...

ADVISORY: BUTTS ROAD TRAFFIC FLOW REALIGNMENT

Two traffic detours will be implemented in February as part of the ongoing roadway construction on Butts Road south of Titus Boulevard.

The first week of February, the northbound lanes of Butts Road through the Crow's Foot security gate will be converted to carry two-way traffic and southbound traffic will be detoured onto that section of roadway (see map at the link below). This detour is required as part of the reconstruction of the existing southbound lanes located west of the gate. This two-way detour is scheduled to be in effect until Aug. 1.

Mid-February, the short section of Butts Road, which crosses Infantry Creek and the tank trails will be closed for reconstruction. All Butts Road and tank trail traffic will be rerouted onto a temporary detour road located next to the closure. This detour is scheduled to be in effect until May 1.

Drivers are advised to pay close attention to the traffic signs and posted speed limits while moving through this construction zone. Drivers should anticipate some delays related to this construction and allow themselves additional travel time whenever possible.

For more information, call the Directorate of Public Works Traffic Engineering at 526-9267.

ADVISORY: GATE CLOSURES FOR MAINTENANCE

The Directorate of Emergency Services will conduct routine maintenance on the vehicle barriers Jan. 31. The following gates will be closed to both inbound and outbound traffic during the following times:

- Gate 20 closed 7:15-9:30 a.m.

- Gate 5 roadway at the barrier will be closed between 9:45 a.m. to noon. The housing areas will be accessible through gate 5. Golf course and hospital access will be through Gate 1.

- Gate 4 closed 1-3:30 p.m.

These hours are approximate and may be adjusted slightly. Community members should plan to use the other gates for access to Fort Carson during these times.

ADVISORY: REVERSE DUTY CYCLE WORK SCHEDULE CHANGE

Fort Carson has adjusted its reverse duty cycle work schedule to begin at 9 a.m. in efforts to minimize traffic near Fort Carson in Colorado Springs and Fountain.

Soldiers will now have a duty schedule of 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with physical training from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

We value our partners in the surrounding communities and have mitigated the impacts of the new schedule while also maximizing Soldier combat readiness by conducting physical training during warmer weather in the afternoon.

AFTB INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSE

Army Community Service at Fort Carson is offering a three-day Instructor Training Course early next month as part of our Army Family Team Building Program, 9am to 4pm on Monday, February 9, through Wednesday, February 11. To sign up, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/instructor-training-course-fort-carson-ac-s-tickets-14979486046?ref=ecal>

Army Family Team Building (AFTB) is a program developed by family members for family members. AFTB is a volunteer-led organization with a central tenet: provide training and knowledge to support the total Army effort. Strong families are the pillar of support behind strong Soldiers. AFTB is training for a way of life that prepares everyone in America's Army to function at their personal highest level, in any situation, with minimal outside support. The classes are free of charge and not only provide information about the military lifestyle, but also provide great opportunities to meet others who like to get involved in our community.

Army leaders recognize the important role the entire family team plays in the success of the Army mission. It is not just the Soldier that is in the Army. It is husband and wife, parents and children, grandparents and other loved ones. It is each member of the family working to support each other professionally and emotionally. Our focus at Army Family Team Building is on the family member as a player on the whole Army team!

Our volunteer force makes up the Ft Carson AFTB core. We are always looking for volunteers, whether for 1 hour or 20 hours per week in all aspects of the program, from administrative help to instructing.

The Instructor Training Course prepares volunteers to become instructors for the AFTB program. Because we are an all volunteer corps, we continually recruit instructors. Instructor Training prepares family members, Soldiers, and Army civilians to become effective ACS/AFTB instructors. No prior teaching experience is necessary. Instructor Training class topics include platform skills, adult learners, managing the learning environment, methods of instruction, and the preparation process. Benefits include childcare (when available), professional development, resume building experience, networking opportunities, and meeting new people.

Some of the courses that our volunteer instructors are able to teach:

LEVEL K (Military Knowledge) These modules are crucial for those who are new to the Army. Participants are introduced to basic terms, acronyms, and resources that are needed in order to successfully transition into the Army lifestyle. The first level includes such topics as military acronyms and terms; customs, courtesies, and traditions; community resources; chain of command; military social functions; and the impact of unit mission on Family life. Military Knowledge is not just for new military spouses but also for long-term Army spouses by showing them the "new" within the Army.

LEVEL G (Personal Growth and Resiliency) These modules teach skills that will support your personal growth and resiliency. Topics include improving personal relationships, overcoming stress, time management, exploring personality traits, and effective conflict management.

LEVEL L (Leadership Development) These modules offer training to enhance an individual's professional growth and leadership skills. This training is valuable to individuals who are or want to be leaders, whether it is in the unit, the FRG, or the community. Topics include resolving conflict, establishing team dynamics, developing great meetings, effective communication for leaders, coaching and mentoring, and examining your leadership style.

BASIC TRAINING FOR NEW MOMS BY ACS (FLYER)



For NEW Moms

3rd Tuesday of each month

———— 9 to 11 a.m. ————

For more info, call (719) 524-1991 or register at www.carson.army.mil/acs

BREAKFAST PASTRIES & MORE AT THE ELKHORN (FLYER)



BREAKFAST PASTRIES & MORE AT THE ELKHORN!

Fresh breakfast pastries and more at the Elkhorn!

Available Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m.-10 a.m.

Donuts, muffins, Danish pastries, juices, coffee and more!

Enjoy yourself in front of our fireplace with FREE wi-fi!

Breakfast pastries and coffee also available to go. Check out the full menu on MWRFortCarson.com!



Questions? Call 576-6646



More Events and Info at
www.mwrfortcarson.com



CarsonDFMWR



@CarsonMWR
#CarsonMWR



Elkhorn Catering/Conference Center
1725 Woodfill Rd., Bldg. 7300
Fort Carson, CO 80913

MENU

1. Donuts - \$.75

- a. Apple Fritter
- b. Iced Chocolate Chip
- c. Sour Cream
- d. Powdered Sugar
- e. Coconut
- f. Glazed Devils Food
- g. Golden Glazed
- h. Chocolate Iced
- i. Raspberry Filled

2. Muffin - \$2.50

- a. Choc Chip
- b. Banana Nut
- c. Wild Blueberry
- d. Bran
- e. Cheese

3. Danish - \$2.50

- a. Cherry Cheese
- b. Cinnamon Almond Bear Claw
- c. Apple
- d. Cheese

4. Beverages

- a. Coffee - \$2.50: To Go 3qt \$15.00
- b. Hot Tea - \$2.00
- c. Orange Juice - \$2.50
- d. Cranberry Juice - \$2.25
- e. Bottled Water - \$2.00

Questions? Call 576-6646



More Events and Info at
www.mwrfortcarson.com



CarsonDFMWR



@CarsonMWR
#CarsonMWR



Elkhorn Catering/Conference Center
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Fort Carson, CO 80913

EFMP EVENTS COMING UP (FLYERS)

****Ft. Carson EFMP Meet-up (formally EFMP Special Needs Activity Group (SNAG))**
The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) & New Parent Support Program (NPSP) facilitate a monthly meet-up group for parents of special needs children called EFMP Meet-up. The EFMP Meet-up is a GREAT place for parents of children who have health needs/concerns such as: Allergies, G-tube feeding, Autism Spectrum Disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, Downs Syndrome, etc...to give and receive support from other parents as well as discuss special needs topics.

EFMP Meet-up group schedule:

Monday, February 23 (9:00am to 10:30am)

Monday, March 30 (9:00am to 10:30am)


Monday, April 27 (9:00am to 10:30am)

Monday, May 25 (9:00am to 10:30am)

Meeting location is The Family Connection bldg 1354, Berkeley. Parents are encouraged to come to the group, even if their children cannot attend. If your children will be attending the group with you, you must RSVP to Jessica Brown or Sunny Ginter at (719) 526-4590. Parents can also register to attend at www.eventbrite.com. Search for Ft. Carson EFMP Meet-up, and select the number of attendees (website will prompt you to purchase ticket, the purchase a ticket option is simply reserving your spot. THIS IS A NO-COST ACTIVITY).

EFMP Meet-Up Group

Parent to Parent Support & Education



The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) & New Parent Support Program (NPSP) facilitate a monthly activity group for parents of special needs children called EFMP Meet-Up Group, formally known as SNAG.

EFMP Meet-Up group is a GREAT place for parents of children who have health needs/concerns such as: Allergies, G-tube feeding, Autism Spectrum Disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, Down Syndrome, etc., to give and receive support from other parents as well as discuss special needs topics.




EFMP Meet-Up Group Schedule

Monday, January 26 (9:00am to 10:30am)
Monday, February 23 (9:00am to 10:30am)
Monday, March 30 (9:00am to 10:30am)
Monday, April 27 (9:00am to 10:30am)
Monday, May 25 (9:00am to 10:30am)

EFMP Meet-Up Group meets the last Monday of every month. Meeting days may be adjusted due to the holiday or holiday week. Meeting location is the Family Connection Center, Bldg. 1354, on Berkeley Ave.

Parents are encouraged to come to the group, even if their children cannot attend. If your children will be attending the group with you, you must RSVP to Jessica Brown or Sunny Ginter at (719) 526-4590. Parents can also register to attend at www.eventbrite.com. Search for EFMP Meet-Up Group, and select the number of attendees (website will prompt you to purchase ticket, the purchase a ticket option is simply reserving your spot. THIS IS A NO-COST ACTIVITY).

Parent to Parent Support & Education



****Young Rembrandts- Winter Cartooning Class**

Young Rembrandts teaches drawing with a see-touch-do method that all children can succeed with, learn from, and love!

Location: Army Community Service Building 1526

Date: February 7, 2015

Time: 10:00am to 11:00am

Cost: \$10 per person


Students can expect a new, exciting cartooning lesson, improved core art skills, and to have fun!

Parents can expect increased attention to detail, improved fine motor skills, discipline, persistence, and patience.

More: Children with Autism or Special Needs are welcome to attend. Must be able to function in group setting or have an adult helper with them.

An RSVP is required as space is limited. Please contact Sunny Ginter or Jessica Brown at 719-526-4590.

A Special Event with
Young Rembrandts!



Winter Cartooning Class!

Young Rembrandts teaches drawing with a see-touch-do method that all children can succeed with, learn from and love!

Location: Army Community Service Building #1526

Day: Saturday, 7 February 2015


Time: 10:00am to 11:00am

Cost: \$10 per person

Students Can Expect
A new, exciting Cartooning lesson!
Improved core art skills
To have fun!

Parents Can Expect
Increased attention to detail
Improved fine motor skills
Discipline, persistence, and patience

More: Children with Autism or Special needs welcome to attend. Must be able to function in group setting, or have an adult helper with them.
An RSVP is required as space is limited. Please contact Sunny Ginter or Jessica Brown at 719-526-4590.



****EFMP Developmental Screenings**

Are you concerned about your child's development? Would you like to make sure your child is meeting his or hers developmental milestones?

The Exceptional Family Member Program and The Resource Exchange are partnering to provide Developmental Screenings to military children aged birth to 3 years old.

The Resource Exchange (TRE) has trained staff who provide standardized developmental screenings for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. It is a quick and simple process where you can provide information about your child and receive information immediately following the screening.

When: Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Time: 10:00am-1:00pm

Location: Ivy Child Development Center

Address: 1879 Prussman Street, bldg 1840

Parents must be present for screening

Information on resources in the community will be available.

For more information, please contact Sunny Ginter or Jessica Brown at 719-526-4590.



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When: Wednesday, March 4 2015
Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm
Location: Ivy Child Development Center
Address: 1879 Prussman Street, Bldg 1840
Parents must be present for screening

Information on resources in the community will also available

FITNESS CLASSES CANCELLED

There will be no fitness classes offered at Iron Horse Sports and Fitness Center during the weekend of Jan. 31 to Feb. 1 due to Aerobics and Fitness Association of America certification sessions being conducted in the classrooms. Further AFAA certification sessions will be conducted Feb. 27-28 and March 1. For more information, contact the Iron Horse Sports and Fitness Center at 526-2706.

FORT CARSON EDUCATION SPRING 2015 REGISTRATION



PIKES PEAK
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1/2 Price Tuition!



Spouses taking PPCC classes at **Fort Carson** or **Peterson AFB** may be eligible for a 50% reduction in tuition if both the spouse and sponsor are registered for classes during the same term.

Different classes are okay.



Pick up an application at our Fort Carson or Peterson AFB office, or call 719-502-4200 for more information.



University of Colorado
Colorado Springs



PIKES PEAK
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Military Spouse/Parent Friendly classes will be offered by PPCC in the Fort Carson Army Education Center starting in January.

- Scheduled to start at 8:00 a.m. or later to avoid time conflicts for parents with school-age children.
- Classes end at 2:05 p.m. before Kindergarten through Eighth Grade release at 2:25 p.m. (Based on Fort Carson K-8 school schedules).
- Classes are scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays to avoid conflicting with DONSA and holidays.
- Eight week terms scheduled back-to-back in the Spring and Fall semesters potentially allowing you to meet Federal Financial Aid Fulltime enrollment status requirements, but focus on two classes at a time.
- Many of the *MyCAA* eligible degree plans require these courses.
- Transferable course options that satisfy freshman/sophomore General Education Requirements for many degrees at UCCS and CSU-P such as nursing prerequisites, Social Work, and Elementary Education. See table below for guaranteed transfer equivalencies.
- Eligible for the 50% Spouse Tuition discount if you and your active duty spouse takes a PPCC class at the Fort Carson Education Center during the same term (see spouse tuition discount application for details on eligibility).

PPCC Course #	PPCC Course Name
AAA 109	Student Success
ANT 101	Cultural Anthropology:SS3
AST 101	Astronomy I w/Lab SCI:1
CIS 118	Intro to PC Applications
COM 115	Public Speaking
CSC 105	Computer Literacy
ECO 201	Principles of Macroeconomics: SS1
ENG 121	College Composition I
ENG 122	English Composition II: CO2
GEO 105	World Regional Geography:SS2
HIS 101	Western Civilization:HI1
HWE 100	Human Nutrition
MAT 107	Career Math
MAT 121	College Algebra:MA1
PSY 101	General Psychology I:SS3

UCCS Course #	Name
xxx	xxx
ANTH 1040	Intro to Cultural Anthropology
PES 1050/1090	General Astronomy I/Lab
INFS 1999TC	Info Tech & Bus Problem Solving
COMM 2100	Public Speaking
CS 1999TC	No equivalent
ECON 2020	Principles of Macroeconomics
ENGL 1310	Composition I
ENGL 1410	Composition II
GES 1980	World Regional Geography
HIST 1010 or 1020	The Ancient World or Medieval World
BIO 1050	Personal Nutrition
xxx	xxx
MATH 1040	College Algebra
PSY 1000	General Psychology

CSU-P Course #	Name
US 151	Intro to Academic Life
ANTHR 100	Cultural Anthropology
PHYS 110	Astronomy
CIS 100, 103, 104	Word, Power Point, Excel
SPCOM 103	Speaking and Listening
CIS 100, 103-105	Word, Power Point, Excel, Access
ECON 201	Principles Macroeconomics G-SS1
ENG 101	Composition I
ENG 102	Composition II
GEOG 103	World Regional Geography
HIST 101	World Civilization to 1100
BIOL 112	Nutrition
xxx	xxx
MATH 121	College Algebra
PSYCH 100	General Psychology



Fort Carson Education Center On - Post College Schedule Spring I 2015



PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE (PPCC)				20 Jan - 15 Mar			
Subject	Course #	Section	Title	Days	Start	End	Class Type
HWE	100	9H1	Human Nutrition	T	0800	1045	H
MAT	050	56A	Quantitative Literacy	TR	0800	1125	C
AAA	109	9H1	Student Success	R	0800	1045	H
HIS	101	56A	Western Civilization	TR	1130	1405	C
COM	115	56A	Public Speaking	TR	1130	1405	C
CCR	092	9H1	Composition & Reading	TR	1130	1405	H
MAT	050	56B	Quantitative Literacy	TR	1730	2055	C
MAT	055	56A	Algebraic Literacy	TR	1730	2055	C
CCR	094	56B	Studio 121	MW	1730	2025	C
ENG	121	56A	English Composition I	TR	1730	2005	C
AAA	109	9H2	Student Success	W	1730	2005	H
AAA	109	9H3	Student Success	T	1730	2005	H
CCR	92	9H2	College Composition & Reading	TR	1730	2005	H
CSC	105	9H1	Computer Literacy	W	1730	2005	H
COM	115	9H1	Public Speaking	T	1730	2005	H
PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE (PPCC)				7 Feb - 2 May			
Subject	Course #	Section	Title	Days	Start	End	Class Type
MAT	050	56W	Quantitative Literacy	S	0800	1230	C
CCR	092	9HW	Composition and Reading	S	0800	1145	H
CCR	094	56W	Studio 121	S	0800	1145	C
PSY	101	56W	General Psychology I	S	0800	1145	C
ANT	101	56W	Cultural Anthropology	S	0800	1145	C
CIS	118	9HW	Intro to PC Applications	S	1300	1450	H
GEO	105	56W	World Regional Geography	S	1300	1645	C
ENG	121	56W	College Composition I	S	1300	1645	C
AAA	109	9HW	Student Success	S	1300	1645	H
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY-PUEBLO (CSU-P)				5 Jan - 27 Feb			
Subject	Course #	Section	Title	Days	Start	End	Class Type
SOC	421		Homicide, Courts, and Corrections	W	1715	2215	C
EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY (ERAU)				12 Jan - 15 Mar			
Subject	Course #	Section	Title	Days	Start	End	Class Type
AMNT	270		Airframe Structures and Applications	T	1700	2020	EVC
ASCI	634		Aviation/Aerospace Psychology	W	1700	2020	EVC
MATH	211		Statistics with Aviation Applications	M	1800	2120	EVC
MGMT	311		Marketing	R	1700	2020	EVC
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-COLORADO SPRINGS (UCCS)				20 Jan - 16 May			
Subject	Course #	Section	Title	Days	Start	End	Class Type
GPS	3010		Transition Seminar	M	1700	1900	H
Days: M=Monday, T=Tuesday, W=Wednesday, R=Thursday, F=Friday, S=Saturday, A=Arranged Schedule Class Type: C= Classroom, H=Hybrid- combines classroom & online learning, EVC=Eagle Vision Classroom-LIVE Instructor webcast in classroom TBD=To Be Determined							



PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On Post Classes held in the Fort Carson Education Center

Building 1117, on the corner of Specker and Ellis

Saturday only classes -- 7 February to 2 May 2015

Type	CRN	Subject	Number	Section	Name	Credits	Start Time	End Time	Day(s)
Classroom	36375	MAT	050	56W	Algebraic Literacy	4	8:00:00 AM	12:30:00 PM	S
Hybrid	36376	CCR	092	9HW	Composition and Reading	5	8:00:00 AM	11:45:00 AM	S
Classroom	36377	CCR	094	56W	Studio 121	3	8:00:00 AM	11:45:00 AM	S
Classroom	36548	PSY	101	56W	General Psychology I:SS3	3	8:00:00 AM	11:45:00 AM	S
Classroom	36575	ANT	101	56W	Cultural Anthropology	3	8:00:00 AM	11:45:00 AM	S
Hybrid	36549	CIS	118	9HW	Intro to PC Applications	3	1:00:00 PM	2:50:00 PM	S
Classroom	36378	GEO	105	56W	World Regional Geography:SS2	3	1:00:00 PM	4:45:00 PM	S
Classroom	36379	ENG	121	56W	College Composition I	3	1:00:00 PM	4:45:00 PM	S
Hybrid	36380	AAA	109	9HW	Student Success	3	1:00:00 PM	2:55:00 PM	S

Daytime -- 16 March to 17 May 2015

Classroom	36381	MAT	055	56B	Algebraic Literacy	4	8:00:00 AM	11:25:00 AM	T/R
Classroom	36382	CCR	094	56I	Studio 121	3	8:00:00 AM	10:35:00 AM	T/R
Hybrid	36409	HWE	100	9H3	Human Nutrition	3	8:00:00 AM	10:45:00 AM	T
Classroom	36383	ENG	121	56B	English Composition I : CO1	3	11:30:00 AM	2:05:00 PM	T/R
Classroom	36410	HIS	121	56B	US History to Reconstruction: HI1	3	11:30:00 AM	2:05:00 PM	T/R

Evenings -- 16 March to 17 May 2015

Classroom	36384	ENG	122	56B	English Composition II: CO2	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	M/W
Classroom	36385	MAT	121	56B	College Algebra:MA1	4	0530PM	8:55:00 PM	TR
Classroom	36386	MAT	107	56B	Career Math	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	TR
Hybrid	36388	CCR	092	9H7	Composition & Reading	5	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	M/W
Classroom	36389	CCR	094	56J	Studio 121	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	M/W
Classroom	36390	MAT	055	56I	Algebraic Literacy	4	0530PM	8:55:00 PM	M/W
Classroom	36391	ENG	121	56I	English Composition I : CO1	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	T/R
Hybrid	36392	AAA	109	9H7	Student Success	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	W
Hybrid	36393	AAA	109	9H8	Student Success	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	R
Hybrid	36411	HWE	100	9H4	Human Nutrition	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	T
Classroom	36550	ECO	201	56B	Principles of Macroeconomics: SS1	3	0530PM	8:05:00 PM	T/R
		M	Monday			R	Thursday		
		T	Tuesday			F	Friday		
		W	Wednesday			S	Saturday		

PPCC Department of Military Veterans Programs 719-502-4200 or mil.programs@ppcc.edu

Fort Carson Education Center, Bldg. 1117, room 118. Monday - Thursday, 8:00 - 5:00, Friday's 9:00 - 5:00

FREE!!!

FORT CARSON TAX CENTER

FREE Tax Return Preparation

Opening Day:
2 February 2015
Last Day:
15 April 2015

Location:
1358 Barkley Ave.
Ft Carson, CO

Hours: Mon-Fri
0900-1600

Open on all
Training Holidays

***Closed all**
Federal Holidays

The Fort Carson Office of the Staff Judge Advocate is pleased to announce the re-opening of the Fort Carson Tax Center. We will offer FREE income tax preparation services for both State and Federal tax returns to all Active Duty Service Members, mobilized Reservists (with orders), dependents, and Retirees. All preparers are certified by the IRS as both military and advanced income tax preparers. In 2014, the Tax Center prepared over 3,712 federal returns and over 2,948 state returns. We saved our clients over \$900,000 in tax preparation fees.

At your appointment, be sure to have the following documents available, if applicable:

- A copy of your 2013 tax return
- W-2's, 1099s, and 1098's
- Social Security Cards for you and your dependents
- Copies of court orders for divorce, child custody, and child support and Form 8332 if post-2008 divorce
- Documentation of the following:
 - Childcare costs
 - IRA Contributions
 - Stock, bond, or mutual fund sale
 - Alimony paid or received
 - Bank account and routing numbers if you expect a refund and wish to receive it via direct deposit
 - A Special Power of Attorney if you plan to sign a tax return for a deployed service member.

TAXES ARE DONE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

You can call, send a message via Facebook, or email.

*** We will begin scheduling appointments on 26 January 2015.**

APPT LINE NUMBER:
719-524-1013

FACEBOOK:
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/carsontax>

APPT BY EMAIL:
usarmy.carson.4.id.list.sja-tax-center@mail.mil

GET COLLEGE CREDIT FOR YOUR MILITARY SPOUSE LIFE

What if you could turn the hours you've spent running a unit Family Readiness Group (FRG) into college credit for a Management 101 course? Or have the time you've devoted to caring for your Wounded Warrior be recognized as credit for a health care class? Is there a way your life skills and work experience might reduce the costs and time it takes to pursue your continuing education goals?

Thanks to a new initiative from the Spouse Education and Careers Opportunity program of DoD's Military Community and Family Policy office, the answer is, "Yes!" SECO recently announced the start of its pilot LearningCounts program. In a partnership with the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), military spouses can turn their volunteer, work and life experiences into college credit.

As I recently learned from Lee McMahon, a SECO program analyst, LearningCounts is available to any spouse eligible for SECO programs. She told me that DoD was looking for an education resource for spouses who didn't qualify for MyCAA benefits, but it can also help those who are using MyCAA or who may have maxed out their MyCAA scholarship. It is hoped that LearningCounts will help any military spouse finish school by reducing costs and the time it takes to earn needed credits.

The free program works two ways. You can choose between an instructor led, 6-week on line course or a do-it-yourself on line tool. Either option allows you the freedom to complete the work on your own time, at home, or on your lunch hour. McMahon explained that once connected with LearningCounts, spouses will work with CAEL experts on building a learning portfolio designed to translate your experiences into equivalent undergraduate college credit.

LearningCounts will best benefit those who are already pursuing a degree or are planning to attend school in the near future, and must take general education or foundation level courses McMahon told me. Counselors can help spouses match their previous experience to a particular course subject offered at their school, she said. For example, have you been the web master for a club or FRG? You may be able to have that work count as a basic computer course. Maybe you have been handling publicity for the installation Red Cross office or other organization. Your efforts could lead to credit for an equivalent Business Communications or Marketing 101 class. Been the treasurer for a scout troop, church or club? Showing what you've done through the learning portfolio may add three credits for Accounting 1 to your transcript.

She explained that the 6-week on line course requires participants to log in a few times a week to view instructor lessons and to get assignments which are due every Sunday. McMahon said the course work could take 10-15 hours per week. For spouses choosing this more structured option, they will also earn three credits for completing the course, in addition to the credits earned from their portfolio. For those who are comfortable working on their own, the self-paced, on line program might be best. There are 8 modules to complete that could take 4-6 hours to finish and then 5-10 hours of research and writing work to complete the learning portfolio

McMahon said. She added that you don't need to have documented hours or references, but should have copies of any work you've done to include in your portfolio.

The first portfolio building sessions start January 26 and February 9, 2015. Interested spouses just have to call MilitaryOneSource - 800-342-9647 - and ask to speak with a SECO career counselor. They will evaluate your current education level or help get your continuing education started. McMahon said the counselors will then assist you with signing up for LearningCounts and match you with the portfolio course that meets your experience and needs.

NO-COST ONLINE TAX PREPARATION AND FILING SERVICE

The Military OneSource no-cost, online tax preparation and filing service launches in early January 2015. If you are eligible under the Military OneSource program, you can complete, save and file your 2014 federal and up to three state returns with a custom tool made available through the Military OneSource website. You must start your return from the Military OneSource online tax filing link to access this no-cost offer. This year, the tax preparation and filing tool allows you to include rental property income, second mortgages and charitable donations. The tool also has these new features:

- **Optimized for mobile devices.** Start, continue or finish your taxes on any mobile device from within a mobile browser.
- **Product customization for returning users.** Returning users now experience a much deeper customized interview focusing on everything we already know about you.
- **Refund Reveal™.** Use this feature to see how and why your refund amount increases or decreases.

If you created an account last year through Military OneSource, your login credentials for that account will still work and you will be able to access last year's personal tax information.

- For assistance logging in to Military OneSource, please call 888-363-6431 or submit a support request form.
- For technical assistance with the tax filing tool, please call 800-472-5625.
- To learn more about the tax filing service, please see the FAQs.
- For any questions regarding filing an extension through the software, please contact a Military OneSource tax counselor (800-342-9647) for further information.

The Internal Revenue Service will begin processing e-file returns during January 2015. If you complete your returns with the service offered through Military OneSource prior to the Internal Revenue Service processing date, your files will be held in a pending status. Once e-file opens, the system automatically submits the return to the Internal Revenue Service.

Military OneSource tax counselors

If you have questions about this tax service or about your own tax returns, please call 800-342-9647 and ask to speak with a Military OneSource tax counselor. Trained tax counselors are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Eastern time year-round and with extended hours during tax season: seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Eastern time.

Reminders

- Be sure to access the online tax preparation and filing software through the link provided on the Military OneSource website.
- Remember to wait until you receive all of your W-2s and other tax documents before you file your return. Otherwise, you may have to amend your return.
- Remember that e-filing is subject to the Internal Revenue Service calendar. Though you may be able to complete your return, it will not be submitted to the Internal Revenue Service until the Internal Revenue Service begins accepting e-file returns. For more information, access the [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) website.
- If you are prompted for payment of any kind while using the no-cost service, please call Military OneSource (800-342-9647) immediately for assistance.
- No-cost filing through Military OneSource allows for one federal and up to three state returns per user.

Best practices for filing your taxes

- Have all of your documents and information ready when preparing your taxes (Social Security number, Taxpayer Identification Numbers, W-2s, 1099 forms, expense documents, bank account information in case of refund, etc.).
- Be sure to disclose all of your income from the year (including wages, investments, etc.).
- Determine the best way to file for yourself (prepare your taxes online, paper file or take them to a preparer).
- File early (it's best to do it once you receive all of your documents, reducing the risk of misplacing them, reducing the wait time for receiving a refund and/or avoiding penalties for late filing).

Military W-2s

You may have access to military W-2s and other tax statements through your [myPay](#) account on the [Defense Finance and Accounting Service website](#). Please note that:

- A schedule for when these tax statements will be available on myPay or mailed to your address is usually posted on the [Defense Finance and Accounting Service website](#) between mid-November and mid-December each year.
- Service members who have separated may also access myPay for a year after separation. Therefore, it is important to keep myPay login information available, as it will save time when you are ready to file your taxes. For more information, visit the [myPay website](#).

Military OneSource

Offers **FREE** Tax Consultation & eFiling

- ✓ Maximize your refund
- ✓ Take advantage of our simple, easy process
- ✓ Use your tax refund wisely - save money and pay off debt

Visit **MilitaryOneSource.mil** to file your federal and state taxes.



Call. 1-800-342-9647 *Click.* MilitaryOneSource.mil *Connect.* 24/7

Provided by the Department of Defense at no cost to service members
(active duty, Guard, and Reserve) and their family members.

NURSE ADVICE LINE

Fall is almost here, and that means weekend trips and holidays for the military Family. If you and your family have a medical problem while traveling this fall you can call the Nurse Advice Line (NAL) while on the road for all of your health concerns and needs.

The NAL is the Military Health System's new initiative to improve ready access to safe, high quality care. Calling the NAL gives you access to the advice you need at the right time. Call 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273), Option 1 [or (719) 524-2273, Option 3] to talk to a registered nurse (RN) who can answer your urgent care questions, give you health care advice, help you find a doctor or schedule a next-day appointment at a military hospital or clinic.

If you or a member of your family gets ill while you are traveling, calling the NAL can help you figure out what steps to take. The nurse will ask you questions about the symptoms that you or your family member are experiencing and provide advice on whether you need to seek care and when. When you are traveling, the NAL nurse will help you find a safe, high-quality health care facility in the TRICARE network. If you are a military hospital or clinic enrollee, the NAL will send a follow-up note to your primary care manager and medical team back home so they know how you are doing.

You can safely travel with TRICARE and the NAL. The NAL is available 24/7. For more information on accessing the NAL while on the go, visit <http://www.TRICARE.mil/NAL>.

SUPERBOWL XLIX PARTY (FLYER)



The flyer features a central illustration of the Super Bowl stadium with a large football on top. The background is dark blue with white light rays. Logos for Colorado Mountain Brewery and Borriello Brothers are on either side of the stadium. The text is bold and white with black outlines.

U.S. ARMY MWR

**IT'S PARTY TIME
THE HUB AT FORT CARSON**

Colorado Mountain Brewery
RESTAURANT & TAVERN

BORRIELLO BROTHERS
REAL NEW YORK PIZZA

**SUPER BOWL
XLIX**

FEBRUARY 1

Party starts at 12:30 p.m.!
KICK OFF AT 4:25 p.m.
Football memorabilia signing by Denver
Broncos' Emmanuel Sanders! (3:30 p.m.)
\$10 Wing Buffet ALL DAY! FREE FOR 1ST 100!
Mechanical Bull Riding Contest and Arm Wrestling
Tournament! Winners receive giftcards!
Free rides home from BOSS, 8:30-10:30 p.m.!
Giveaways and more!

Info: 719-526-1867

 More Events and Info at:
www.mwrfortcarson.com

 CarsonDFMWR

 @CarsonMWR
#CarsonMWR

 The Pub at The Hub
6371 Specker Ave.
Bldg. 1532

TBI "BACK TO BASIC" CLASSES (FLYER)

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) "BACK TO BASIC"



WHO? ANYONE WITH A TBI OR INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT TBI

WHAT? APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR PRESENTATION WITH QUESTIONS, ANSWERS
AND RESOURCE INFORMATION

WHEN? AN OFFERING OF 4 IDENTICAL CLASSES - CHOOSE THE BEST TIME FOR YOU!

11 February 1100-1200 at SRP
18 February 1130-1230 at WRC
25 February 1230-1330 at SFAC
25 February 1600-1700 at WRC (If people want it)

WHERE?

Soldier Readiness Processing Center (SRP) (BUILDING 1042-ROOM #224 or #204)
Warrior Recovery Center (WRC) (BUILDING 7489-Conference Room #121)
Soldier and Family Assistance Center (SFAC) (BUILDING 7492 Titus Blvd)

WHY? SO YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF OR YOUR BUDDY

PRESENTED BY:

ROBIN WININGER, MS, CBIS
REGIONAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR
FOR THE DEFENSE AND VETERANS BRAIN INJURY CENTER
THE TBI OPERATIONAL COMPONENT OF THE DEFENSE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

CALL: 719-526-8636

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT AND FOR MORE INFORMATION!
Additional Classes for groups of 5 or more are available through coordination with DVBIC

UPCOMING USO EVENTS (FLYER)



COLORADO SPRINGS

Sunday February 1st 2015 - USO Colorado Springs Super Bowl Party

Sat. February 7th 2015- USO Colorado Springs Portraits of Love Event

Saturday February 14th 2015- USO Colorado Springs Sweetheart Dinner and Dance

*Please join us for Crafts for Kids every Saturday at the USO Colorado Springs from 12pm to 2pm

As always, the USO is open 7 days a week for soldiers and their families to come enjoy a snack and take advantage of the great services offered at the USO Colorado Springs. Please contact Phil Martinez our USO Director with any questions at pmartinez@uso.org or 719-568-3500.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (FLYER)

Save the date for this year's VBS and please consider volunteering now - many volunteers needed this year!



SAVE THE DATE

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 8-12, 2015
Soldiers' Memorial Chapel
0900-1200

Groups
EVEREST
Conquering Challenges with
God's Mighty Power

Registration: Heidi McAllister
heidi.a.mcallister.civ@mail.mil

Registration opens
May 1, 2015

POC: Pat Treacy 524-2458
Call Pat to VOLUNTEER!!!
patricia.a.treacy2.civ@mail.mil

WILL'S HOPE (FLYER)

WILL'S HOPE



A local 501 (c)(3) non profit founded in 2012 in Colorado Springs

Vision: Youth & young adults with significant emotional or mental disabilities, who are good persons, with aspirations to do well face many challenges in their daily lives. Will's Hope is an outdoor program to strengthen & develop passions, promote skills & instill hope while enhancing self-esteem, confidence & other intangibles.

Mission: Provide teenagers & young adults with mental disabilities an opportunity to see their situation in a more positive way while gleaning valuable insight from the natural world and Native Americans. Use nature as a self-enabling mechanism to cultivate individual strengths and allow participants to more clearly see the value they add to their family and community while promoting growth and independence.



Concept of Operation: Will's Hope immerses small groups (5 to 6 persons) for a week long program in southern Montana & Yellowstone National Park. World class instructors and Native Americans lead the groups in a wide variety of hands on experiences designed to promote enthusiasm while enhancing skills, self-confidence, resiliency of spirit and many other attributes.

Target audience: Young adults (e.g. dependents) with mental disabilities such as autism, emotional impairments, developmental disabilities, bi-polar as well as others. Individuals must want to attend, willing to participate as a member of the group & participate in activities. Will's Hope is an advocate for & supports each participant throughout the entire program with mentors and staff.

More Info: www.ppcf.org/products/wills-hope or mwsquire@earthlink.net

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